

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-4, 9 and 10 remain pending herein. Claims 5-8 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Further to the Amendment filed on December 24, 2003, favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicant's attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is herein requested to call Applicant's attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin C. Brown
Reg. No. 32,402

December 29, 2003

Date

KCB:jms

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